

Mansfield Public Schools

Board of Education Update

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Superintendent of Schools

Issue #2

August 2008

Information regarding the current status of the Mansfield Public Schools: items, issues, challenges, and opportunities district staff addressed during the month, as well as upcoming district and school events.

Enrollment

Grade	GW	SE	VN	Grade	MMS	District
PreK	20	21	20	5	140	
K	41	43	35	6	141	
1	36	43	48	7	138	
2	31	52	48	8	162	
3	38	51	49			
4	38	38	46			
Total	204	248	246		581	1279

- Enrollment of 1279 is 22 less than August 29, 2007 enrollment of 1,301.
- Four families have notified the district of their intent to home school 7 children.
- Reviewed and granted enrollment to 3 families as future residents with building commitments.

Connecticut Mastery Test – Fourth Generation Results

#/% of students at/above goal

Grade	Math	Writing	Reading	Science
3 – 122	96/78.7%	95/77.9%	83/68%	-----
4 – 132	92/69.7%	95/73.1%	89/68.5%	-----
5 – 141	115/81.6%	116/84.1%	109/77.3%	121/85.8%
6 – 136	103/75.7%	92/67.6%	106/78.5%	-----
7 – 159	126/79.7%	125/78.6%	135/86%	-----
8 – 150	150/74.5%	119/78.5%	125/83.9%	127/84.7%

- Mailed individual student reports to parents.
- Reviewed by district and building administration along with appropriate teaching and support staff.
- Reviewed preliminary No Child Left Behind (NCLB) reports that indicated all individual schools received Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) but the district as a whole did not reach AYP for two sub-groups.
- Notified that students in Gr. 4 at SE and Gr. 8 at MMS will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Budget

- Received written request from the Town Manager's Office to reduce the adopted Mansfield Board of Education budget by \$155,825.
- Reviewed by Administrative Council and developed a list of reductions to be presented to the Mansfield Board of Education at its first meeting on September 11, 2008.

Personnel

	Certified	Non-Certified
Retirements	0	0
Resignations	0	3
Requests for Leave	0	3
New Hires	1	1

- Conducted initial training of selected staff regarding Aesop, an automated substitute placement system.
- Reviewed and distributed all Instructional Assistants job descriptions.
- Met with Personnel Committee regarding negotiations with Mansfield Administrator Association.
- Conducted training for 20 new substitute teachers on August 21, 2008.
- Scheduled mediation session with Instructional Assistants (SEIU).

District: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Including Instructional Technology Applications

- Developed and disseminated to all K-5 Mathematics teachers a year one implementation plan for *Bridges in Mathematics*.
- Revised and disseminated to all appropriate staff the plan for implementing Houghton Mifflin: *Legacy of Literacy*.
- Reviewed summer curriculum work completed by teachers during initial Curriculum Council meetings.
- Review of Dr. Monti's draft report by Language Arts teachers.

Policies

- Revised MBOE Policies which reflect recent changes in legislature drafted by Shipman and Goodwin were completed and sent to members of the Mansfield Board of Education Policy Committee for initial review.

Building and Grounds

- Completed repair of all items noted by Bill Hammon, Director of Maintenance and Fran Raiola, Assistant Fire Marshall.
- Completed re-cleaning of Goodwin at the end of summer school and Camp Mansfield.
- Completed cleaning of Southeast and Vinton.
- Completed final cleaning of Mansfield Middle School and refinishing the gym floor at the end of summer school and Camp Mansfield.
- Review of Mansfield Middle School fuel conversion plans prior to going out to bid by Building Committee.
- Initiated repairs to music room at Mansfield Middle School damaged by resident as the result of a driving lesson.
- Awaiting resolution regarding rain leaking on occasion into Mansfield Middle School library.
- Completed redesign of Vinton School front office.
- Planned relocation of Southeast refuse containers.
- Conducted compost training for all school custodians.

Programs

- Inspected, repaired, upgraded, and enhanced Physical Education indoor and outdoor elements at the three elementary schools.
- Completed summer school on August 8, 2008.
- Completed Town Sponsored Camp Mansfield on August 8, 2008.

Communication

- Scheduled initial meeting with Tri-Town Superintendents.
- Scheduled meetings with bargaining unit leaders.
- Distributed Opening Day packets, including District Parent Handbook, to all students.
- Distributed emergency card information to include medical coverage for students.
- Conducted Opening Day Welcome and Address with all staff.

Security

- Activated buzzers and cameras at designated doors at each school.
- Instituted the use of proximity cards by all staff.
- Resolved minor malfunctions as they occurred.

Professional Development

- Conducted training in First Aid, CPR, and AED for all new Instructional Assistants and selected coaches.
- Held initial meeting of professional learning communities for 141 certified staff in 13 course offerings.
- Conducted initial implementation training for *Bridges in Mathematics* for all K-5 teachers and support service teachers.
- Conducted orientation for new certified staff on Thursday, August 21, 2008.
- Conducted Curriculum Council meetings on August 25, 2008 to review goals and summer work.
- Held Celebration of Teaching Presentation by Dr. Lee Hay for teachers and instructional assistants.

Technology

Administrative Applications

- Conducted set-up and training of automated system for recording substitutes.
- Distributed proximity swipe cards to schools for 08-09 school year.
- Attended presentation with Region 19 of PowerSchool to replace MMS SASI school software.
- Conducted demonstration of assessment database with administrators, consultants, and coaches.

Energy

- Distributed building level data regarding energy usage for the last 5 years.
- Introduced the concept of school building energy committees.
- Implemented new guidelines for after school building use in an effort to reduce energy consumption.

Other

- Implemented and revised bus routes to reflect current enrollment.
- Attended Commissioner of Education's Back to School Meeting.
- Attended Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents New Superintendent Orientation.
- Mailed survey to randomly selected parents on Diesel Retrofit Program.
- Participated in August meeting of Blueprint for Mansfield's Children Leadership Work Group.

Additional information will be provided upon request by calling 429.3350 or by emailing mboesupt@mansfieldct.org.

Upcoming Events in September:

Please join us at any/all of these events

GW	SE	VN
Book Fair 9/3/08 6:30pm	Open House 9/3/08 6:30pm	Bus Evacuation Drill 9/5/08 8:45am
Bus Evacuation Drill 9/3/08 8:45am	Bus Evacuation Drill 9/4/08 8:45am	PTA 9/9/08 7:00pm
Open House 9/4/08 6:30pm	Parent's Hour/PTO 9/8/08 6:00pm	Open House 9/10/08 6:30pm
PTO 9/17/08 6:30pm	<i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> Parent Meeting 9/9/08 7:00pm	Celebrate Vinton Assembly 9/23/08 TBD
<i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> Parent Meeting 10/9/08 6:30pm		<i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> Parent Meeting 10/20/08 7:00pm
MMS		
Bus Evacuation Drills 9/2-12/08 7:40am	Opening Assembly 9/2/08 9:00am	Pot Luck Gr. 6 9/11/08 5:00pm
Open House 9/18/08 6:30pm	Electrify Your Strings Assembly 9/22/08 11:00am	<i>Bridges in Mathematics</i> Parent Meeting 9/24/08 7:15am
Mystic Field Trip Gr. 5 9/26/08 All Day	Fiddlehike Trip 9/26-28/08	
District		
Building Committee 9/10/08 5:00pm	BOE 9/11/08 7:30pm	Building Committee Community Presentation 9/17/08 7:00pm